

Wait in Expectation

Psalms 5 says: "In the morning, O Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation."

I wonder how different our attitude toward prayer would be if we REALLY expected our prayers to be answered. I think back to the times when God has suddenly answered one of my prayers and my first thought is "Wow, I can't believe he actually answered that!" It sounds so silly that it makes me laugh. What exactly was I expecting to happen when I prayed?

King David was a man after God's own heart, and he knew how to pray. He talked to God all the time, not just in the morning. He also talked to him when he laid on his bed at night and when he covered his couch with tears. David just had this way of talking to God all the time. He wasn't afraid to tell God how he felt and he wasn't afraid to make his requests known to God. One thing is certain – David always expected God to answer him. And he waited in expectation. As you read through the Psalms you will see over and over again that David had complete assurance that God would intervene and grant him his request.

Think about the prayers you prayed today. Are you expecting God to answer them?

Title	Summary
Stronger Together	I have often thought that Christians could be more effective if we worked together as one. With so many different churches and organizations, each with their own ministries, it seems like we would benefit greatly if we could work together, pooling our time and resources to become a major force in our world. One organization that is doing just that is Alliance Defending Freedom (www.adflegal.org). As their name says, they are an alliance of organizations working to defend our religious freedom in the United States.
Pray without ceasing	I have often wondered what Paul meant when he said that he never ceases to give thanks or that he prays without ceasing. We are commanded to do this in Scripture, but what does it really mean?
I didn't expect you to answer like THAT!	Sometimes when we pray, God answers in a way that is totally unexpected. One thing I know for sure is that God is good and he will not give us a stone when we ask for bread. So, even though it does not seem like God gives us the RIGHT answer, we know that He gives us the BEST answer.
Praying – Easy or Hard?	Why is it so difficult to slow down and actually get on our knees in prayer? Is it because we are too busy? Maybe it is because we really don't understand how much God longs for us to take that time to just focus on Him. He knows our hearts, but do we know HIS heart?

Praying for Miracles	I wonder how many times we miss God's blessing because we fail to pray for miracles. I hope this post will encourage you to pray for miracles. Not just for the miracle itself, but for the miraculous change it can bring about in the life of another.
Learning to Pray	As believers, we are promised the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us in prayer, searching our heart and thoughts and tells us what to pray. The Holy Spirit will teach you to pray if you just ask.
Why pray?	If God already knows what we are going to ask for, and his will is going to be accomplished on the earth, and the Spirit is already interceding, why does he need us to pray?
Not the answer you were expecting?	Sometimes we pray to God and we already have in our minds how we think he should answer. In fact, we pray with our desired answer foremost in our mind. Many times (if not most of the time), God answers us in ways we never expected.
Feelings versus Faith	"Sometimes people will neglect to pray because they are in the dark and feel no desire to pray. But that is the very time when they need prayer. That is the very reason they need to pray. " - Charles G. Finney
Prayerlessness	I think the greatest sin of our churches today is prayerlessness. This post explores some of the reasons why we struggle with prayer. Do any of these sound familiar?
Humble Yourself	When you pray, ask God to open your eyes to see yourself the way he sees you. Humble yourself before him and ask him to forgive you for your pride and for trusting in your own wisdom instead of looking to him for guidance.
The Impulse To Pray	Always respond to every impulse to pray. The impulse to pray may come when you are reading or when you are battling with a text. I would make an absolute law of this – always obey such an impulse. –Martyn Lloyd-Jones
Praying for Spiritual Leaders	While browsing the Internet, I came upon the list below for “Praying for Missionaries A-Z”. I wanted to share it with you because I think it is applicable for praying for anyone in ministry.
Do you delight in prayer?	As you fall more and more in love with God, you will begin to desire to spend time with Him and you will delight in prayer.
When you don't feel like praying	What I have found is that prayer can be a lot like exercise. I procrastinate exercising all the time because it is difficult, requires my time and energy and focus.

Tough Week

When you don't understand life's turns and you are tempted to be discouraged, focus on who God is. He is unchangeable. We know that he is compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. That never changes, no matter how it seems. You need to trust him and acknowledge him and have faith that he will always do what is most just and loving and most compassionate. One day we will understand fully. Be patient and keep trusting.

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